135 What is Claimed is:

1. A method of operating an Integrated Circuit (IC) package comprising the steps of:

providing an IC chip with a microcontroller therein having an n-bit data bus; and

providing up to n pins electrically coupled to said microcontroller.

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2. The method Claim 1 further comprising the step of providing control register means coupled to said microcontroller for receiving enable and disable signals.

3. The method Claim 2 further comprising the step of providing pin function

145 configuration means coupled to said control register means for determining a function for a corresponding one of said n pins.

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4.   The method of Claim 3 wherein the step of providing said pin function configuration means comprises the step of providing at least one functional block means coupled to said control register means for determining a function for a corresponding pin.

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5.   The method of Claim 4 wherein the step of providing said pin function configuration means comprises the step of providing a plurality of said functional block means each coupled to said control register means and to a corresponding pin of said n pins for determining a different function for said corresponding one of said n pins.

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6.   The method Claim 4 wherein the step of providing said control register means provides independent control line means to each functional block means for transferring to each function block means one of said enable and said disable signals.

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7.   The method of Claim 6 wherein only one of said functional block means per pin is enabled at a time by said enable signal to configure a corresponding pin for a function associated with said enabled functional block means.

8.   The method of Claim 6 wherein each of said functional block means is coupled to a corresponding one of said n pins and to said microcontroller for transferring data between said corresponding pin and said microcontroller when a particular one of said functional blocks is enabled.

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9.   The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of providing up to said n pins includes the step of providing a number of Input/Output (I/O) type pins less than n.

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10.   The IC package of Claim 1 wherein data control commands of said microcontroller operate upon n-data bits.

Add A'
Add B'

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